

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE
PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE REPORT**

1. STATION Troop E - Erie		2. CAD/CASE NO. E01-897999
3. INVESTIGATING OFFICER Tpr. Christopher Marghella		
4. NATURE OF INCIDENT Indecent Assault	5. DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT 01/11/2000 / 2130 hours	
6. LOCATION Walmart, 1825 Downs Drive, Summit Township, Erie County		
7. PERSON(S) INVOLVED Defendant: Jeffrey BECHTOLD, W/N-M - 68, of Penn Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania Victim: Known W/N-F of Fairview Township, Erie County		
8. INCIDENT DETAILS <p>On 01/11/2000 at approximately 2130 hours, the victim, and her friend arrived at Walmart, 1825 Downs Drive, Summit Township, Erie County. The victim had driven her boyfriend's vehicle, which she parked in the parking lot outside of the store. Once inside the store, BECHTOLD placed a Polaroid picture of a naked white male with an erection on the dashboard of the vehicle. Said picture was of a male from the waist down and showed the male to be overweight. He also placed a plastic bag with suspected semen in it on the dashboard of the vehicle. Suspected semen was also rubbed on the victim's vehicle steering wheel. The victim was frightened and drove home and contacted PSP-Erie later that night.</p> <p>The unknown suspect's DNA was entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) where it sat until March 9, 2023. Tpr. Christopher Marghella received a CODIS hit indicating the suspect from this incident was BECHTOLD. A search warrant was prepared for a confirmatory sample of BECHTOLD's DNA which confirmed BECHTOLD as the suspect of this incident. BECHTOLD's DNA sample was on file with CODI from a conviction in 2022.</p> <p>Charges against BECHTOLD were filed on 07/31/23 through MDJ MCGOWAN's Office. The charges are Indecent Assault and Obscene and other sexual materials and performances.</p>		
<i>In the interest of transparency, it is the policy of PSP to disseminate information regarding incidents which are likely to generate significant interest among the public and media in a timely manner. While we make every effort to ensure the information is accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief, incidents are often fluid and rapidly evolving. Information provided should be considered preliminary and subject to change as additional investigative details emerge.</i>		